

MIDWEST MARINE TERMINALS INC.

19001 Old LaGrange Road
Mokena, IL 60448

March 5, 2019

Paul Ruesch
On-Scene Coordinator
Region 5 – Superfund
Emergency Response Branch
United States Environmental Protection Agency – Region V (SE-5J)
77 West Jackson Boulevard (SE-5J)
Chicago, Illinois 60604



Re: Midwest Marine Terminals – Fire Incident
Final Written Report
National Response Center Incident Number 1224637
Illinois Emergency Management Agency Incident Number H2018-0863

To whom it may concern,

As you are aware, a fire incident occurred on September 14, 2018 at the 11701 South Torrence Avenue, Chicago, Illinois property at which Midwest Marine Terminals (MMT) with the consult and direction of the Chicago Fire Department, Environmental Restoration, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, the Chicago Department of Health and the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, performed preventative measures to ensure water used to extinguish the fire would not migrate to the Calumet River or any storm drains. Subsequent to that initial response action MMT performed various site clean-up and waste disposal efforts. This letter is being written to provide a conclusion of the incident reported by MMT on the date of the occurrence and in the incident letter submitted on October 8, 2018.

Site Clean-Up and Waste Disposal

Site clean-up and waste disposal started on September 16th, 2018, the day the fire was completely extinguished and water ceased being poured on the fire. From this date, quench water was collected and placed in frac tanks and fluid-containment barges. In addition, the Tire Derived Fuel (TDF) started being removed from the site on September 24th, 2018. Finally, a sand berm was placed around the TDF piles to contain any petroleum and contaminated stormwater.

The collection of quench water from the TDF Fire concluded in early October 2018. Quench water was then transferred to the Illinois & Michigan Oil operated barges and then transported and disposed at appropriate treatment centers.

By early November 2018, all TDF was removed from the site and transported and disposed at appropriate landfills.

A sand berm was placed around the TDF and any petroleum and contaminated stormwater was directed to a secure area. After each precipitation event, a vacuum truck collected the petroleum/contaminated stormwater mixture and placed it in frac tanks on the site. This practice continued until early November 2018, when all TDF was removed from the site.

Future Site Use Preparation

After the site clean-up and waste disposal efforts, the area affected by the fire had to be prepared to store material once again. Environmental Restoration was hired to prepare the area for material storage. This process commenced in mid-November 2018 and consisted of three phases:

- The concrete pad used to store TDF was cleaned by pressure washers and a street sweeper. The water generated from this exercise was collected with a vacuum truck and placed in frac tanks located at the site.
- The TDF had also been stored on an unpaved area. A three-inch depth of soil was removed after the TDF was disposed.
- Further, soil and sand berms which had been adjacent to the TDF were also removed. The soil and sand removed from this area was transported and disposed at an appropriate landfill.

The water collected in the frac tanks was transported and disposed at an appropriate water treatment center. With the removal of the frac tanks from the site, the Future Site Use Preparation operations concluded in February 2019.

Additional Information

An Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act Emergency Release Notification (EPCRA 304)/Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Report was previously submitted to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the Illinois State Emergency Response Commission, and the Chicago Local Emergency Planning Committee on December 12th, 2018.

The area where the TDF-Fire occurred is now available for material storage use.

Finally, all booms which were placed at each affected outfall have been removed from the site. To the knowledge of this author, no petroleum or contaminated water reached the Calumet River from September 14th to this date as a result of the TDF Fire.

If you have any questions concerning this report, please contact me at 708-326-4591 or at michaelsaldarelli@ozinga.com.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Saldarelli Jr, PE
Director of Environmental Compliance

cc: Robert Kondreck, On-Scene Coordinator, Emergency Response Branch, 77 West Jackson Blvd, SE-5J, Chicago, IL 60604
Thomas Mendez, On-Scene Coordinator, Emergency Response Branch, 77 West Jackson Blvd, SE-5J, Chicago, IL 60604
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Acting Director, William P. Robertson, c/o Mr. Kelly Horn, Illinois SERC, 1035 Outer Park Drive, Springfield, IL 62704-4462
Chicago Local Emergency Planning Committee, Office of Emergency Management, Attn: EPCRA Coordinator, 1411 West Madison St, Chicago, IL 60607

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